## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 /083 W -------000486 242028Z /45

R 231205Z SEP 77

FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

TO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

?AMEMBASSY ACCRA 545

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

SECSTATE WASHDC 8150

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: BLAB. MR. SS

SUBJECT: WESTERN SAHARA ISSUE RAISED IN AFRO/ARAB UNION CONFERENCE

CONTEXT

- 1. MAURITANIAN LABOR UNION (UTM) CONTINUING EFFORTS TO MOVE PROPOSED SITE OF OAU/ARAB LABOR CONFERENCE FROM ALGIERS TO ANOTHER LOCATION IS FURTHER INDICATION OF MAURITANIAN PRE-OCCUPATION WITH WESTERN SAHARA ISSUES IN ALL INTERNATIONAL FORA.
- 2. UTM ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY SOW MOUSSA DENBA (NUMBER TWO RANKING OFFICIAL) REPORTS THAT IN SPITE OF UTM JUNE 29 LETTER APPEAL TO ALL AFRICAN AND ARAB LABOR UNIONS FOR AFRICAN/ARAB CONFERENCE SITE OTHER THAN ALGIERS, OAU UNOJON EXECUTIVE SECRETARY J.D. AKUNU IN SEPTEMBER 8 LETTER FROM ACCRA HEADQUARTERS TO ALL OAU MEMBERS STATED THAT AIR TICKETS FOR OCOTOBER 16 LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ALGIERS CONFERENCE WOULD BE SENT IN NEAR FUTURE. MAURITANIANS HAVE STRESSED TO AFRICAN AND ARAB TRADE UNIONS THAT CHOICE OF ALGIERS AUTOMATICALLY EXCLUDES MOROCCO AND MAURITANIA SINCE ALGERIANS WILL OBVIOUSLY INSIST ON POLISARIO REPRESENTATION. THEY HAVE THEREFORE URGED SELECTION OF A NEUTRAL SITE. MAURITANIANS HAVE PROPOSED ACCRA, CAIRO AND MOST RECENTLY BAGHDAD AS ALTERNATE SITES.

3. UTM OFFICIALS EXPECT TO CONTINUE HARD LOBBYING FOR CHANGE OF SITE AT WEST AFRICAN LABOR UNION CONFERENCE SCHEDULED TO START IN ABIDJAN ON SEPTEMBER 28. UTM ALSO HOPES TO PURSUE ITS POSITION AT ARAB UNION CONFERENCE WHICH HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED FROM SEPTEMBER 23 (IN CAIRO) TO OCTOBER 12 IN TUNIS. HANDYSIDE

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## Message Attributes

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Subject: WESTERN SAHARA ISSUE RAISED IN AFRO/ARAB UNION CONFERENCE CONTEXT

TAGS: ELAB, OCON, MR, SS, WS, AL, OAU

To: ABIDJAN Type: TE

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